

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action mailed on December 14, 2007. This response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12, 39, 43-46, 48, 49, 51-57 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Stolz.

Applicant notes with gratitude that claims 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17-19, 28-32, 40-42, 47 and 50 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 6 and 32 have indeed been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 32 has been amended to say the "sink mechanism is for converting said at least one constituent-of-interest" instead of sink device because claim 32 was dependent upon claim 3, and claim 3 said the "sink mechanism is selected from the group consisting of a sink material and a sink device". Claim 14 was also indicated to be allowable and it was directed to the sink material. Thus, the sink mechanism is allowable both for the sink device and the sink material and thus this has been combined into claim 32 by simply saying "sink mechanism".

Applicant also notes with gratitude the clarification of the Examiner about the sink mechanism. It is noted that the element 12 of Stolz does not trap or absorb anything into it; it is merely a rubber membrane or valve. In contrast, claim 1 has been amended to state that the constituent-of-interest becomes absorbed in the sink mechanism. The basis for this amendment is found in paragraphs 134, 145 and 146, among others, of the specification.

It is respectfully believed that all claims of record are now allowable.

Applicant hereby permits email correspondence with Applicant's representative, especially for clarifying points to lead to allowance of the application.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

DEKEL PATENT LTD.

BY /David Klein/

David Klein, Patent Agent

Reg. No. 41,118

Tel 972-8-949-5334

Fax 972-949-5323

E-mail: dekelltd@netvision.net.il